The first meeting/field visit of Sub-Group-I (for Assam and neighbouring States) was held at Guwahati during September 23-25, 2004. The 2nd meeting of the Sub-Group was held at Guwahati on November 16-17, 2004. The Sub-Group submitted its report to the Task Force in its meeting held on 02-03 December, 2004. The Task Force considered the report of the Sub-Group-I along with reports of other Sub-Group II & III and other agenda. The Task Force has been asked to submit its report by 31st December, 2004.

Pending irrigation projects from Assam

†1302. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of irrigation projects from Assam are pending with the Central Government for clearance;

(b) if so, the details thereof, project-wise; and

(c) the details of steps taken by Government to clear these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) Three projects of Assam namely Champamati Irrigation Project, Dhansiri Irrigation Project and Integrated Irrigation Schemes for Kallong River Basin were approved by the Central Government in 1980, 1975 and 1980 respectively. The State Government has submitted revised cost estimate of these projects to Central Water Commission for appraisal. The approval of Central Government depends upon the promptness with which the State Government complies with observations of the Central Appraising Agencies.

Pench Brihad Pariyojna for Chhindwara

†1303. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal regarding Pench Brihad Pariyojna (mega project) in Chhindwara district of Madhya Pradesh has been pending with Central Water Commission for the last few years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when the said project is likely to be cleared?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE INTHE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) the revised estimate of Pench Diversion Project of Madhya Pradesh received in August, 1985 was considered by the Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Water Resources in October, 1988 and was found acceptable subject to certain observations. The Planning Commission did not recommend this project for inclusion in the Eighth Five Year Plan as priority fixed by the State Government was to complete the ongoing schemes first. The updated proposal of the project for an estimated cost of Rs.641.35 Crore (2000 price level) was submitted in August, 2000 which was examined by Central Water Commission (CWC) and the project proposal was found to have change in the scope of project as compared to the previous proposal received in 1985. After examining the proposal the comments/observation of CWC were communicated to the State Government. Subsequently, State Government submitted the modified Detailed Project Report in July, 2002 after incorporating compliance to the comments of CWC for techno-economic appraisal. Clearance of the project depends upon the promptness with which State Government complies with the observations of Central appraising agencies.

Proposal of the State Government of Bihar on flood

†1304. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Government of Bihar has submitted proposal to the Government to save the State permanently from the tragedy of floods;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal;

(c) the manner in which the proposal would be implemented and by when; and

(d) the expenditure likely to be incurred on the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE INTHE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The State Government of Bihar has submitted a proposal to

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.